

ABSTRACT

5 The present invention includes a memory subsystem comprising
at least two semiconductor devices, including at least one memory
device, connected to a bus, where the bus includes a plurality of
bus lines for carrying substantially all address, data and
control information needed by said memory devices, where the
control information includes device-select information and the
bus has substantially fewer bus lines than the number of bits in
a single address, and the bus carries device-select information
without the need for separate device-select lines connected
directly to individual devices. *a*

10 The present invention also includes a protocol for master
and slave devices to communicate on the bus and for registers in
each device to differentiate each device and allow bus requests
to be directed to a single or to all devices. The present
invention includes modifications to prior-art devices to allow
them to implement the new features of this invention. In a
preferred implementation, 8 bus data lines and an AddressValid
bus line carry address, data and control information for memory
20 addresses up to 40 bits wide.